

Summary Information

Version Date: July 2018	Prepared by: Owen Watkins	Reviewed by: Jason Cooper	Approved by: John Tchir – Resource Manager
Waterbody ID: 3994	Surface Area: 586 ha	Hydrologic Unit Code Name (HUC_8): Upper Battle River	Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC_8): 09010101
Sport Fish Species: Walleye, Northern Pike, Lake Whitefish, Yellow Perch, and Burbot			
Indigenous Fishery: Yes			
Environment and Parks Region: Red Deer North Saskatchewan Region (RDNSR)		Fisheries Management Zone: Prairie Parkland 2 (PP2)	Fisheries Management Office: Red Deer

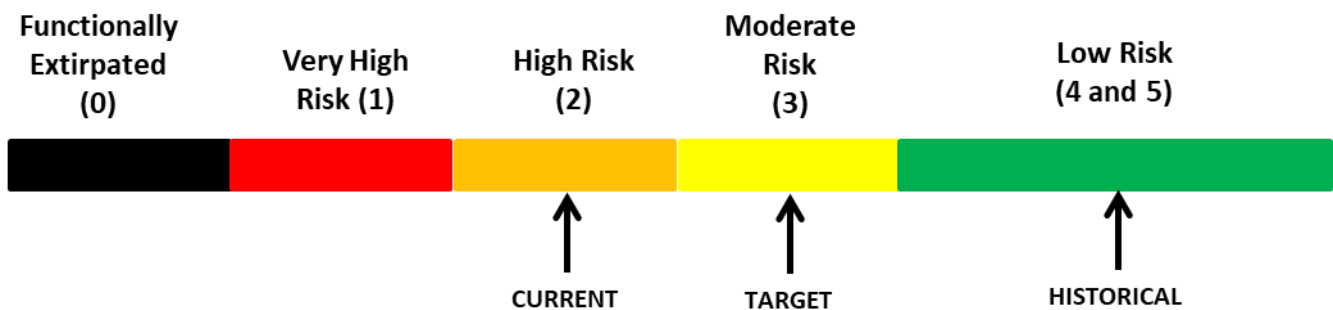
Background

Battle Lake is located approximately 102 km southwest of Edmonton (54 km west of Wetaskiwin) in the County of Wetaskiwin. Battle Lake is sourced by Battle Creek, entering the lake from the southwest. Battle Lake is the headwater source of the Battle River, outflowing to the southeast. Stockings of walleye eggs occurred in Battle Lake in 1951, and 1953 with only limited success due to the lack of suitable spawning substrate. Spring stocking of fingerlings in the spring of 1990 to 1992 were successful, and a minimum size limit of 38 cm was implemented in 1994. Consequently, the regulation was changed to Catch and Release in 1995.

Fish Population Status

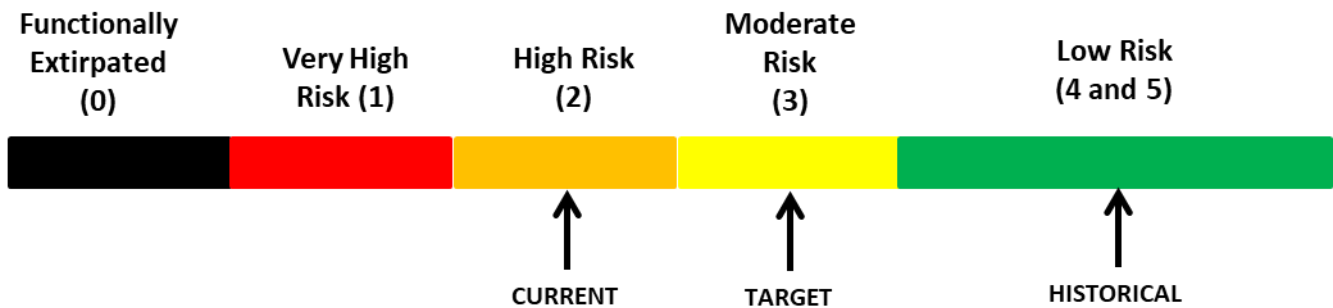
Northern Pike – Adult Abundance

Fish Sustainability Index Adult Density Score



Walleye – Adult Abundance

Fish Sustainability Index Adult Density Score



Lake Whitefish – Abundance - Undetermined

Yellow Perch- Adult Abundance – Undetermined

Burbot – Adult Abundance – Undetermined

Recreational Fishery Management Objectives

The focal species for recreational management is **Walleye**. The secondary species managed for recreational objectives are northern pike, yellow perch, lake whitefish, and burbot. These sport-fisheries are directly assessed at intervals, and therefore are **actively** managed. The **Overharvest Protection Need** is assessed as **Very High Risk**.

Walleye - The recreational fishery management objective for walleye is **Sustainable Harvest**. The corresponding FSI score for the current mature density of walleye was assessed at (2) **High Risk** to sustainability. The walleye population is not meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a sustainable harvest fishery. The current management action is a **Recovery** regulation of **Catch and Release**.

Northern Pike - The recreational fishery management objective for northern pike is **Sustainable Harvest**. The corresponding FSI score for the current mature density of northern pike was assessed at (2) **High Risk** to sustainability. The northern pike population is not meeting the status and criteria for the objective of a **Sustainable Harvest** fishery. The current management action to achieve this outcome is a **Recovery** regulation of **Catch and Release**.

Lake Whitefish – The status of the lake whitefish population has not been assessed. The current management action is a regulation of 10 lake whitefish, any size.

Yellow Perch – The status of the yellow perch population has not been assessed. The current management action is a regulation of 5 yellow perch, any size.

Burbot – The status of the Burbot population has not been assessed. The current management action is a regulation of 2 burbot, any size, and a burbot limit of 0 from Feb. 1 to Mar. 31.

Management Summary

Management Priority	Species	Overharvest Protection Need	Management Action	Sport Fishing Harvest Regulation
Primary	Walleye	Very High	Maintenance	Catch and Release
Primary	Northern Pike	Very High	Recovery	Catch and Release
Secondary	Lake Whitefish*	Very High	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	10 any size
Secondary	Yellow Perch*	Very High	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	5 any size
Secondary	Burbot*	Very High	Maintenance – Sustainable Harvest	2 any size (Burbot limit 0 – Feb. 1 to Mar. 31)

**Recreational management objectives for yellow perch, lake whitefish, and burbot have not been fully developed into management frameworks, and will be subject to change pending on-going work and development. However, general action statements have been listed for this species within the context of relative abundance, catch rates and trends associated with index netting assessments, in relation to the management of this species at a provincial level.*